

EARLY INTERVENTION (EI) **TRANSPORTATION**

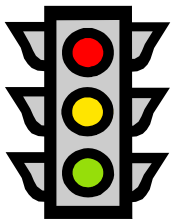
For a child to receive the greatest benefit from EI, regular attendance for services identified on the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is very important.

If transportation is needed for your child to receive these EI services and you are unable to provide it, the Department of Public Health (DPH) will help.

The Department provides transportation services to children and families enrolled in certified EI programs. Services are furnished through Regional Transit Authorities acting as brokers with local transportation companies.

ELIGIBILITY

Children, from birth to three years of age, enrolled in a certified EI program and receiving services identified on the IFSP are eligible. A parent or other caregiver must accompany any child under 18 months of age.



APPLICATION

Forms to request transportation are available at your EI program. All requests for transportation are processed through the EI program. The process will take approximately 1 week for service to begin.

SAFETY & MONITORING

Strict performance criteria, as defined in the Department's Transportation Standards, are required of the transportation companies. Service is monitored through periodic on-site inspections by Regional Transit Authority staff and daily reports on performance from EI program staff. The following are some of the standards:



- Parents must be given a pick-up and drop-off time and service must be provided within 15 minutes plus or minus of that time.
- Vehicles must be well-maintained, clean, smoke free, equipped with a two-way radio or cellular phone, and a first aid kit.
- Trips must be on-time and not exceed 45 minutes in length.
- All children must be properly restrained in a child safety seat that meets Federal Standards and is appropriate to the child's size and weight.
- All vehicle occupants must be seat belted.
- Drivers must be courteous and have undergone a criminal background check, Registry of Motor Vehicle's check and be drug/alcohol tested.
- Drivers/monitors must be certified in basic first aid & CPR for infants and children
- Monitors must be provided when 3 or more unattended children are on board and must be seated in one of the rear seats of the vehicle with the children.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

To provide a safe and secure trip and to maintain uninterrupted transportation services, a parent/guardian must:

- Identify any individuals that you want the transportation company to release your child to (these individuals should have a photo id to confirm their identity).
- Ensure that your child attends services regularly.
- Be ready at your child's scheduled pick-up time and be at home at your child's scheduled drop-off time.
- Report any transportation problem to EI program staff.
- Notify the transportation company and your program at least one hour before your scheduled pick-up time if your child is unable to attend.
- Participate to the fullest extent possible.



Transportation may be interrupted and the IFSP reviewed for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to be at home at your child's scheduled drop-off time.
- 3 or more absences from transportation in a month with no timely notification given to the transportation company.
- Chronic absenteeism.

Your EI program is:

Telephone _____

Your transportation company is:

Telephone _____

Parent Notice:

If you have issues or concerns about your transportation service please contact your EI program.

If the EI program doesn't respond to you or you disagree with the program's response, you may contact:

Mary Dennehy-Colorusso
Office of Family Rights & Due Process
MA Department of Public Health
(978) 851-7261 ext. 4016

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts**

**Executive Office of Health &
Human Services**



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murphy
Lieutenant Governor

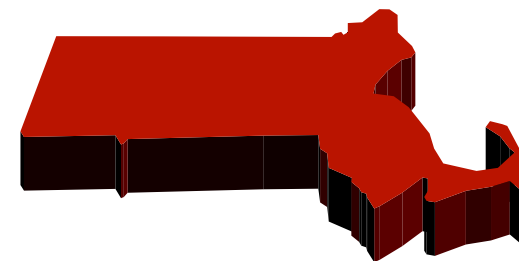
JudyAnn Bigby, M.D.
Secretary

John Auerbach
Commissioner

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**Children & Families
Transportation
Early Intervention**

**Massachusetts
Department of Public Health**



**Human Service Transportation
Office**